No. G. 3424—G. M. 173-10-2, dated 5th December 1910.

The following Resolution of the Government of India, Department of Commerce and Industry, Post Office, No. 7843—7880-51, dated the 29th October 1910, regarding the proposal to increase the number of Post Office Holidays by six days, is published for general information.

By Order,
C. S. BALASUNDARAM IYER,
Offg. Secy. to Govt., Gen. & Rev. Depts.

No. 7843—7880-51.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

POST OFFICE.

Simla, the 29th October 1910.

RESOLUTION.

The Government of India have had under their consideration the question of increasing the number of Post Office holidays. At present, holidays are given in the Post Office on Sundays, New Year's Day, Good Friday, the King's Birth Day and Christmas Day, but even on these days very few of the postal officials can be allowed complete relaxation from work, as certain duties must be performed in connection with the delivery and despatch of mails, which necessitate the attendance for some period of the day, of the majority of the staff at the various offices.

2. Representations have been made to the Government of India that the general liability to work on Sundays and holidays constitutes a grievance in the case of its large body of Post Office employees, for which a remedy should be found. It is recognised that it would be impossible to allow the staff of the Post Office as many holidays as are enjoyed by most other Government servants, but inasmuch as work in business offices is either stopped altogether or greatly curtailed on the more important public holidays, it has been represented that there would be no serious objection to increasing the number of Post Office holidays, by six days to be selected as far as possible from those gazetted under the Negotiable Instruments Act. Most of these holidays are granted on account of important religious festivals, and the duties of postal servants prevent them to a large extent from attending and taking part in these observances to which many of them attach great importance. The six additional holidays would not necessarily agree in the different postal circles, but would be arranged to suit local conditions.

3. It has accordingly been proposed that six new holidays should be held on the days of the following festivals.

For all circles except Madras and Burma—

1. Muharram.
2. Holi or Doljatra.
3. Janmastami, or Gokulastami.
4. Id-ul-Fitr, or Ramzan.
5. Dasehra or one day of the Pujas.
6. Divali or Kali Puja.

For Madras—

1. Pongal.
2. Mahasiva Ratri (or Telugu New Year.)
3. Avani Avittam (or Tamil New Year.)
4. Mahalaya Amavasi.
5. Id-ul-Fitr, or Ramzan.
6. Dipavali.

For Burma—

1. Muharram.
2. Burma New Year.
3. Beginning of Buddhist Lent.
4. One day of the Pujas.
5. End of the Buddhist Lent.
6. Tazaundaing.

The dates to be selected would be notified before the beginning of the year in all post offices and in the Postal Guide.

4. The Government of India are prepared to take this question into consideration, if there is a generally expressed desire on the part of the public to afford relief in the matter of holidays to the employees of the Post Office. And this Resolution is published in order to afford the public an opportunity of expressing their opinion on the proposals it contains. It is not intended that these should apply to the Telegraph Department or to the Telegraph Staff in combined offices.

5. The Government of India will finally consider these proposals after the 1st January 1911. They will be glad to receive before that date any representations on the subject which Local Governments, public bodies, or private persons may desire to make.

ORDER.—Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to all Local Governments and Administrations, to all Chambers of Commerce and Trades Associations and to all Departments of the Government of India.

Ordered also that a copy be published in the *Gazette of India*.

W. MAXWELL,
Secretary to the Government of India.